MARVEL 001
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NEW
CREATIVE TEAM!
CHARLIE JANE
ANDERS
+
ENID BALÁM
ELISABETTA D'AMICO
MATT MILLA
NEW MUTANTS
LETHAL LEGION

Boxton, Florida.
New Mutants rescue mission.
HALCYON FACILITY
The *U-Men* are my least favorite nerds.
They're sadistic butchers who like to carve up mutants like me to steal our powers.

But there's one good thing about them: Their helmets don't leave them much peripheral vision.
So we can't even define what intelligence *is*, but you guys still insist you're the genius elite.
?!

Also! Social intelligence is just as important as pure rationality!
ZZAK

Recently, they captured me and my friends.
Nice work, Escapade. So far, so good. But let's not underestimate these guys, everyone.
Oh, I won't.

When we escaped, we found a list of their other horror factories...
Cerebella...are you sure you're ready to go back in there? You--
Wouldn't miss it for a lifetime supply of pizza.
...and the mutants still trapped in them.

I haven't known what to say to Martha since we escaped.
She had to relive the worst moment of her whole life.
Stay behind me. This should all be over so--
Hey!

So much for stealth. Our luck hasn't changed.
WHEEOOOO WHEE OO
Stop right--
Almost close enough... Come on, run faster, jerks!

--there?!
Hi!
WHEEEEEEEEOOOOO
Ah! A little warning next time,
Yeah, so I can trade places with anybody within
Sometimes it's just physical location,

WHEEEEEEEEOOOOOOOO
The U-Men's founder, this weird bacteria guy named *John Sublime,* turned Martha into a weapon and used her to hurt the X-Men.
Rrrrrr...
You wanted our *powers?* Here you go.
WHEEEEEEOOOO--RKK
And Sublime came *this close* to controlling me too.
Turning me into another weapon.
I can be you--
I used to be afraid of my powers.
--I can be *you*--
Especially after Destiny showed me a vision where I caused the death of my best friend.
--annnnd I can be *you!*
This power could cause so much pain in the

Found you--!
Wolfsbane! It's really you!
...but I've realized, that just means it's on me to make it do something good instead.
WRENCH
It's okay. We're all here to get you out.
We're taking you someplace safe.
Martha--?
There you are! I was starting to...
Are you okay?
I'm fine. Just... dehydrated. Keep forgetting I need water.
I think I saw a break room. Should I get you a weird energy drink?
That'd be great. Thanks.
Wait.
Could you...sit with me?
I can do that. I am a master of sitting!

What's wrong with me?
I should feel better.
I faced Sublime again, and we beat him.
We just rescued these kids.
So why don't I *feel better?*
What *can* I say? What *do* I say?
I...I don't think that's how this works.
You can't erase the bad things that happened. All you can do is make them part of a bigger story.
Uhhhhghah what...
ZZAK
... Yeah.

[00_Destiny]
[00___ of X]

NEW MUTANTS:

LETHAL LEGION

PART ONE

Shela Sexton, A.K.A. Escapade, has been through it. Freshly recruited to the New Mutants, Escapade's first mission was anything but ordinary. After all, it's not every day you and your friends are captured by Sublime and his U-Men goons in order for him to harvest your organs and powers. Oh, and on top of that, you had to deal with Destiny telling you she had a vision of your best friend, Morgan Red, falling to their death. However, with the help of her fellow teammates -- Cerebella and Leo Eng -- and mentor Wolfsbane, Escapade was able to face off against Sublime and prevent Morgan from dying. Now, as the dust settles from the New Mutant's harrowing adventure, more questions...and dangers... surface.

[SHELA SEXTON, A.K.A. ESCAPADE]

[MORGAN RED]

[MARTHA JOHANSSON, A.K.A. CEREBELLA]

[GABBY KINNEY, A.K.A. SCOUT]

[RAHNE SINCLAIR, A.K.A. WOLFSBANE]

[DANI MOONSTAR, A.K.A. MIRAGE]

[XUÂN CAO MANH, A.K.A. KARMA]

[JAMES PROUDSTAR, A.K.A. WARPATH]

"VAMPIRE HEIST"

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[00_lethal_legion]

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[new_mutants_[0.01]

[SHELA]

Hey Shela we really need to talk.

Everything fell apart all at once.

I don't know what to do, and you're not here.

You said you would be here.

... Shela?

Escapade???

Are you even getting these messages?

I don't even know what time it is on Krakoa.

Listen, when you get this...

Ugh.

Forget it. By the time you get this...

...it'll be way too late.

I'm moving back in with my parents. Just for a while.

...

You said you would be here.

Astoria, Queens, New York.
Come on, Shela. Text me back.
FRAGILE
BRROOONGGGG
That's the front door.
MEEP?
Sorry, Hibbert, I didn't order any more toys for you. No idea who this is.
Rahne!
Hey, Morgan. I just got back from doing a mission with Shela, and I thought I might check on you.
You're moving?
Yeah. The landlord told me we have to go.
Would you like some tea? I've got Lapsang souchong, Rooibos, and Pu'er.
Uh, Pu'er please.

You know your landlord can't just throw you out like that.
I didn't feel up to fighting it.
He found out Shela and I are mutants along with everyone else in New York. He's just worried about having his building firebombed. Or attacked by horny space gods?
Well, you can always--
Yep. I'm "always welcome on Krakoa." But Shela's the one you all really wanted.
Tch. I didn't come here to talk to your ***roommate.*** She's on Krakoa already. I'm here for ***you.***
Yeah, ***okay.*** Meanwhile, my trans mutant support group is taking a break because of death threats.
And my gaming group is too busy asking me if I've met Rogue to actually play.
This isn't healthy. When did you last go outside?
I--
Get your coat. We're going shopping.
Krakoa. The Wild Hunt.
I'm sorry. I'm being boring.
I wish I could just montage this @#$%.
You're fine. Really.

It's just, now I have a body that never quits pumping chemicals into my brain. I get spasms and head rushes, and my chest squeezes tight.
People keep saying Krakoa is a *fresh start.*
And in my mind, that turns into "pretend nothing bad ever happened."
How do I let her know I'm listening and not, like, thinking about ravioli?!
Uh-huh.
Listening is harder than talking, which makes *no sense.*
What do I do to stop feeling so cruddy?
"Well, there's one thing that works for me."
When I'm feeling frustrated or powerless or whatever, one life hack always makes me feel better...
And that's *taking rich asshats down.*

Most of us just want to survive and maybe bite off a chunk of our dreams.
But a few egomaniacs want everything for themselves.
Forget mutants vs. humans--the real fight is everyone against the oligarchs.
And you used to mess with those guys before you were living on Krakoa?
Yeahhhh... But, uh, I still don't know if I'm living on Krakoa. I do like it here. It's... complicated.
Oh, sorry. Didn't mean to... I mean, no pressure.
But... how do we take down these evil jerks?
By taking their stuff!
"They think nobody can touch them, which makes it easy.
"And there are so many targets to choose from."

The world has mislaid its fear of *Count Luchino Nefaria.*
They think me feeble.
A man to be trifled with.
I, who laid the Avengers at my feet.
Who nearly made the world my ionic slaves.
Who scourged the X-Men!

You, for instance, a grubby peon who spies on his betters for the security state--you believed that you could walk inside my house.
You saw my humiliation at the hands of the Sin-Eater* and thought, "Here is someone who lacks the power to defend what is his."
Mmmm!
*Amazing Spider-Man (2018) #46! --S.B.
MMMRRR!
You may die knowing you have reminded me of my greatness.
Soon, my ionic catalyzer will be complete, and I will regain my full strength.
But perhaps...I shall require some assistance.

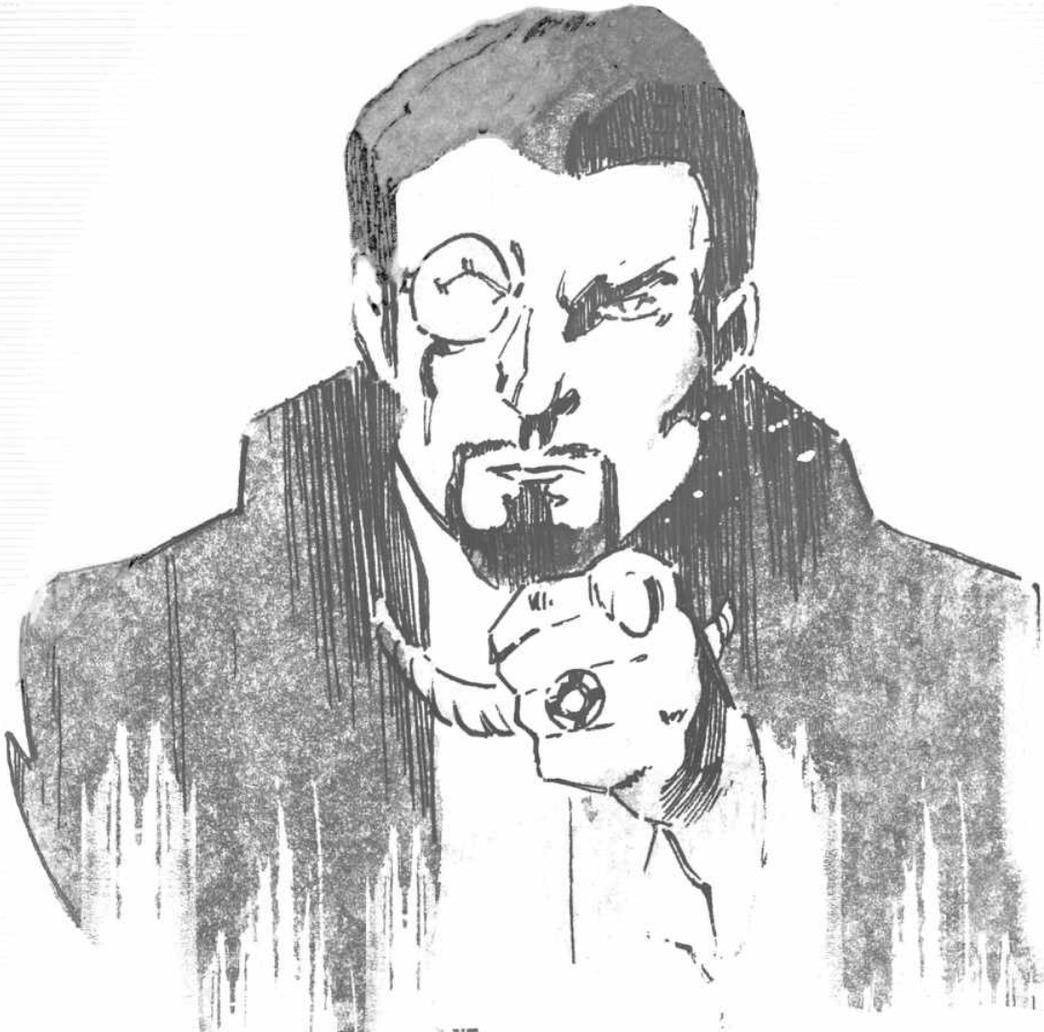
What we need is a *calling card.*
Like, we always leave one scarlet rose with some of the petals strewn around, to symbolize the impermanence of personal possessions.
THE WHISPER SISTERS WERE HERE
Maybe a note that says "The Whisper Sisters were here."
Or! We leave a tiny shield with a star on it, with a note saying, "You just got robbed by Captain America."
Just to screw with their heads.
At some point, we'll have to ballroom dance, but secretly, we'll be checking out all the security.
You'll spin me around, and I'll whisper in your ear, "Two guards at nine o'clock."
Oh... That sounds...
Is this a date? It's beginning to sound like a date.

So who's our first target?
I want to ask Morgan for advice, but what if they're mad that I'm doing a heist without them?
I don't know. We should pick someone easy. I've never done a robbery without Morgan. But they told me they wanted to go straight.
I mean, not be a criminal anymore. Heh.
There's this guy--Count Nefaria. He used to be in the Maggia, and he fought the Avengers a few times.
But now he's just kind of a sad guy.
I don't know. Is he a vampire? I have kind of a juicy neck.
I think he's only a vampire for ionic energy?
The important thing is that nobody around here knows what we're up to--
Too late!
Scout! How long have you been listening?
Long enough.
I won't tell anyone about your vampire heist, on one condition.
I want in.

When you said we were going shopping, I was picturing Dapper Boy. Or maybe the new Gentleman Bandit pop-up store.
Not... this.
We're shopping for *tech*, not clothes.
Half of Spider-Man's enemies stashed their labs in these sewers.
Our enemies--like Orchis--know all about the tech we have on Krakoa, as advanced as it is, and it's only a matter of time before they use it against us.
You and I might just find something they won't be expecting.
GRRRRR HSSSSSSS
What was that--?
Could be anything. Giant alligator? Giant rat?
Plenty of beasties down here.
Is it too late to pivot to a shopping experience with more of a sophisticated concierge--?
GRRRR KHHHHHHHH
Oh yeah, it's getting closer.

KRRRR GHHHH SSSSSSSSSS
Oh, that's a large one. Wonder how it got down here?
Don't worry.
My friend and I mean you no ill.
GRRRAAAAHH
ROAAARRRRR SSSSSS
I really have no desire to hurt you!
I'm sorry for whatever made you so untrusting.
Over here!

JOIN THE NEW



LETHAL LEGION

Count Nefaria is seeking glory — will you stand with him?

**We have a PLAN and it is a GOOD PLAN with no OBVIOUS FLAWS.
This isn't like LAST TIME. Or the time before THAT.
Or any of the OTHER times.**

We shall score the kind of crushing victories that normally only happen in an alternate universe.

Do you have what it TAKES to be among the BEST OF THE BEST?!?!?

**Come to tryouts at Count Nefaria's house!
Be prepared for battle. Wear your best costume.**

Food and drink provided.

(Count Nefaria does not reimburse mileage.)

Okay, so let's say we rob this vampire--
Ionic-energy vampire.
How do we get inside his *mansion?* Morgan was always the one who figured out all the security on our jobs.

He literally just invited a bunch of strangers. All we have to do is show up looking like hench-people.
Hench-wenches!
IN THE NEW
LETHAL LEGION

I dunno... The best heist is one where they don't even know we were there.
I've pretended to be a caterer so many times, I know how to wrap bacon around whatever. Including, one time, a cloned dinosaur egg.

We'll be in *disguise.* We just won't be disguised as caterers.
I'm not wrapping bacon around *anything.*

I want shoulder pads.
You two sneak around and let me in--
And a skull face!
This is moving so fast. But
...I haven't seen Martha smile like

This will work. The vampire--
Ionic-energy vampire.
The vampire won't even see us. Come on. I know where to get some costumes that slap.

This is what kills me. Whoever's lab this was--
Spencer Smythe? I think. He made some exo-suits.
Smythe clearly knew a lot about robotics, but his network is made of cheapernet cables.
Nobody's an expert on everything.
Do you think that creature is gone?
Probably not. Listen, I wanted to ask...why do you have such a problem with Krakoa?
Nationalism is a disease. And the first thing you all did was create a new language that nobody else could speak.
And you wonder why people don't trust you.
But also? Krakoa will always be at war.
You have no conventional weapons, right? All you have is people with powers.
You'll have to keep turning your people into *weapons.*
...I can see why it looks that way to you. But we *also* can't die, remember?
That's what makes it so much *worse.*
You'll keep fighting and dying, fighting and dying, forever.
You can restore your bodies, but what about your minds?
It's like being trapped in hell.

THOOMP
KARRRHHGHGHGH GROWGHH
The creature's back!
Will the wall hold?
Smythe was using the sewer pipes as a coolant system.
So... no.
THOOM THOOM THOOM
This is the thing. Life is fighting. That's all there is.
ROAAARRR
When I was a child back in Scotland, I believed I could have a peaceful life.
If I just kept my head down and did what I was told.
It did not work.
THOOM THOOM THOOM THOOM THOOM
HOWWWLL
That's why we cherish every quiet moment.

That's why we take care of each other. No matter what.
KRRASSH
ROAAAAR!
Now run!
MEEP?!
We could have gone to Dapper Boy, I'm just saying.

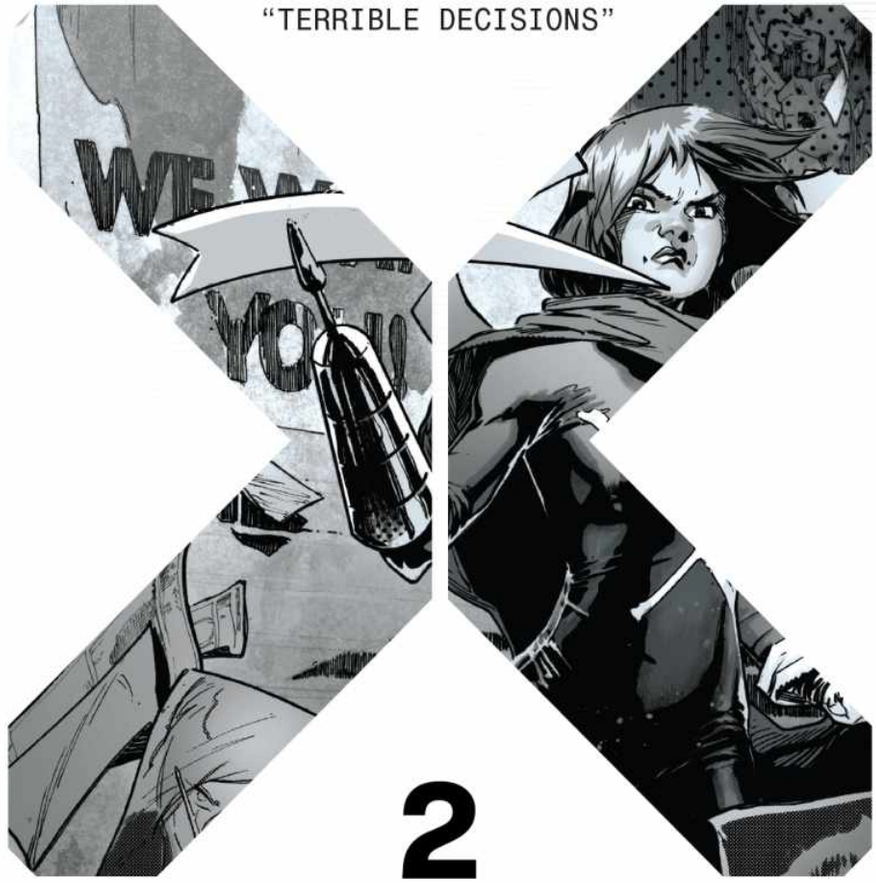
Too much?
What am I saying? There's no such thing as too much.
Us hench-wenches go *hard*.
Okay, these are pretty great. I would wear these clubbing.
I would be scared of anyone who wore this in public, for sure.
It's...a statement piece.
Say goodbye to Escapade and Scout--

--and say hello to...
BLASTER DAME!
And...
FISTICUSS!
So hard-core.
There's *no way* this can possibly go wrong!

[new_mutants_[0.01]

NEXT

"TERRIBLE DECISIONS"



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